REMARKS

In this response, Claims 1, 7, 8, 13 and 14 are amended. Claims 1-15 remain in the application.

Rejections of the Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement, specifically as containing subject matter not described in the specification. Applicants amend Claim 7 to remove the term "a plurality of buses." Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Rejections of the Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,856,991 issued to Srivastava ("Srivastava").

Applicants amend independent Claim 1 to more clearly point out that "the session label generated by the server load balancing apparatus is modified by the servers by adding a set value to the value of the session label to generate a Server-To-Client (S2C) session label for a response packet transmitted back to the clients, and the S2C session label is modified by the clients by subtracting the set value from the value of the S2C session label to generate a Client-To-Server (C2S) session label for the packet transmitted from the clients to the servers."

Independent Claim 8 is also amended to include analogous elements.

Srivastava does not disclose the amended features. Srivastava discloses the use of an MPLS label to identify a client-server transaction. The MPLS label is generated by an intermediate node between the clients and the servers (col. 9, lines 17-21). The clients and servers of Srivastava do not generate or modify the MPLS label after it is generated by the intermediate node. Thus, Srivastava cannot be interpreted as disclosing a client generates a C2S session label and a server generates a S2C session label, wherein the C2S session label is generated by subtracting a set value from the value of the S2C session label, and that the S2C session label is generated by adding the set value to the value of the C2S session label.

Analogous discussions apply to independent Claim 8. For at least the reasons mentioned above, Srivastava does not teach each of the elements of Claims 1 and 8, as well as their respective dependent claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-15 is requested.
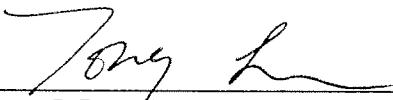
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
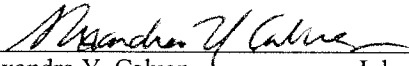
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: July 14, 2008

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CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being submitted electronically via EFS Web on the date shown below.

Alexandra Y. Caluen   July 14, 2008